

Subject: Belgian WWI medal

Honack, William J.

1931

[Chicago, IL]

Disabled American Veterans of the World War

Meuse-Argonne Chapter No. 17

Chicago, Ill.

CHARLES M. HAGEN, COMMANDER
CHARLES M. HAGEN, PAST MASTER
Y. GEORGE PIRAFOLO, PAST COMMANDER
LEONARD D. PETERSON, VICE COMMANDER
HON. WM. MEYERING, 1ST. JR. VICE COMMANDER
CHAS. W. BENNET, 2ND. JR. VICE COMMANDER
ARMAND ACOSTA, 3RD. JR. VICE COMMANDER



GEORGE MURPHY, 4TH. JR. VICE COMMANDER
MITCHELL SHARP, ADJUTANT
WILLIAM J. HONACK, CHAPLAIN
CHARLES MOORE, OFFICER OF THE DAY
THOMAS S. FITZGERALD, JUDGE ADVOCATE
CLEM P. MULLINS, SARGEANT-AT-ARMS

HENRY A. HONACK, TREASURER
4838 WEST CHICAGO AVENUE
PHONE AUSTIN 2404

Feb 7 1931

Chicago Ill.

Mr. Howland Wood,

Dear Sir,-----

Could you be so kind as to give me some information on a Belgian World War Medal. I want to know if you can tell me what the Belgian World War Medal is awarded for; if it is awarded to foreigners who served in Belgium or with the Belgian Army etc? This is not the Belgium Victory Medal! As it is listed seperate.

I would like a general description and just what and to who it can be awarded too.

You stated in your letter to me of Dec 8 1930 that Belgium issued a Commemorative Medal after the War, the same as the French did, this is what I want to know about if possible. Thanking you most sincerely I am

yours truly

William J. Honack
753 No. Central Ave.
Apt. C 3.
Chicago Ill.

P. S. Can you also give me the same information about the British General Service World War Medal, I think it is also called British World War Service Medal as well. Thank you very much.

W.J.H.

Feb. 11, 1931

Mr. William J. Honack
753 No. Central Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of February 7th, although we have specimens of the Belgian Commemorative medal we have no especial information as to its awarding. It comes with all sorts of devices for fastening to the ribbon, such as a red cross for Red Cross work, bars for service (I have seen one with four bars for four years' service), small crowns and stars for presumably special mention. I cannot tell you whether this was given to foreigners. If it was, I should say that it was given only to those foreigners who served with Belgian organizations or under Belgian command, and not to those who served in Belgium under French, English or American command. I am herewith enclosing a rubbing of this medal.

I do not quite understand what you mean by the British General Service World War Medal. The British General Service medal is of long standing and is given to those engagements or actions for which no special medal is provided. None were given for actual participation in the World War as other medals were provided, but it has been awarded since the World War for various duties in Asia and Africa. There is, however, what is known as a British War Medal, which is sometimes called the Overseas Medal. This corresponds to the campaign badge issued for other wars. The obverse has the head of George V., and the reverse a man on horseback. The ribbon is orange with fine stripes of white, black and blue on each side. This was awarded to all combatants, as well as the Victory Medal. Some of our Naval Officers serving under strictly British command also received these medals.

Very truly yours,

Curator.